



**CPCU**  
SOCIETY

# ChapterGram

Iowa CPCU Society Chapter

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CPCU Society Social Media



February 2014

www.cpcu-iowa.org

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## Upcoming Events

February 13, 2014 11:30 am	Community Choice CU Convention Center	Iowa Department for the Blind
March 2014 Date and time - TBD	TBD	Ethics Day
April 17, 2014 11:30 am	Smokey D's BBQ Restaurant	Speaker: Darren Warth Topic: Food Preparation & Loss Control

## Message from the President

Is it spring yet? This has been quite the winter so far – freezing rain, snow, ice, arctic cold, and high winds. Here in Iowa the work doesn't stop due to the weather and neither do our dedicated CPCUs.

On the morning of January 17, over 35 CPCUs braved the snowy conditions to join us at the Machine Shed for a filling breakfast and intriguing presentation from Lieutenant Colonel Michael Wunn of the Iowa National Guard who spoke about the Kosovo Project and the Iowa State Partnership Program. If you haven't seen the photos yet, I encourage you to check them out on our [website](#).

Hopefully, Mother Nature will be kind to us on February 13 when we meet at the Community Choice Credit Union Convention Center in downtown Des Moines. Registration information is enclosed. We hope to see you there!

As you register for our February meeting, I encourage you to reserve the evening of May 20 on your calendar for the Iowa Insurance Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony. This is will be a wonderful evening of networking and celebrating those who helped strengthen our industry here in Iowa. We are members of an amazing industry that encourages education, gives back to the community, and values ethical business practice. Nominations are being accepted now through March 1. Visit [www.iihof.org](http://www.iihof.org) for the additional information and nomination instructions.

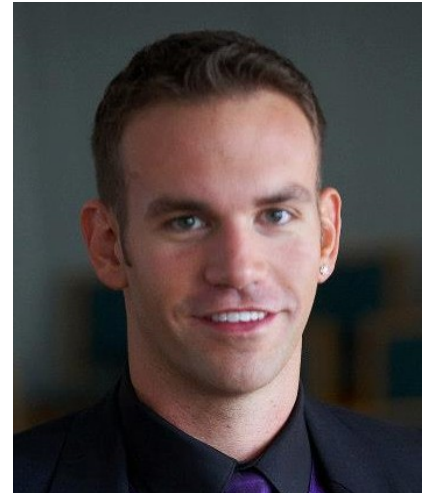
“If we had no winter, the spring would not be so pleasant: if we did not sometimes taste of adversity, prosperity would not be so welcome. “ - Anne Bradstreet

- Erin Osier, President, Iowa Chapter



## New Designee Spotlight

**Adam Trowitch, CPCU, AIC, AIS**  
**Claim Adjuster**  
**Pekin Insurance**



After graduating from Illinois State University in 2010, I began my career with Pekin Insurance as a claim adjuster. My wife and I moved to Iowa for my current position with Pekin Insurance soon after being hired. I had always known about the CPCU designation through insurance coursework throughout college, but never realized the commitment in obtaining the designation. Talking with several coworkers throughout my company and the industry, the general consensus was to start your CPCU earlier rather than later. With this advice, I was able to complete my CPCU in a year and a half and was also able to obtain other industry designations such as the Associate in Claims (AIC) and Associate in Insurance Services (AIS).

The CPCU designation has been a great challenge and a relief to complete. In earning the designation I have obtained useful information that I am able to use in my career on a daily basis. Experiencing the trip to New Orleans was a great reward for all of the time and effort put into my CPCU designation.

In my free time I enjoy spending time with my family and friends. I also enjoy outdoor activities, anything dealing with cars and boating. However, most of my free time is spent working out and watching a few of my favorite television shows.

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## 2014 Scholarship for Iowa Chapter Members

This spring, the Iowa CPCU Society Chapter will be awarding up to one \$1,000 scholarship to Iowa Chapter members and/or their dependents. This has been a very successful program and we are glad to continue to offer this opportunity to our members.

The scholarship is available to graduate and undergraduate students. To be eligible, graduate applicants must be an Iowa CPCU Society Chapter member and attend an accredited graduate college or university. For undergraduate applicants to be eligible, they must be an Iowa CPCU Society Chapter member or a dependent of a member, be a sophomore, junior, or senior attending a four-year accredited college or university, and maintain an overall GPA of at least 2.75 on a 4.0 scale. Preference will be given to students majoring in insurance or an insurance-related area of study. **Note:** The undergraduate scholarship can also be used by a current Iowa CPCU Society Chapter member that is pursuing a four-year degree.

Please use the applicable form provided in this ChapterGram. The forms are also available on our website at [www.cpcu-iowa.org](http://www.cpcu-iowa.org) and at the links below. Applications should be sent to Doug Nuehring by March 14, 2014.

- [Undergraduate Scholarship Online Application](#)
- [Graduate Scholarship Online Application](#)

## Undergraduate Scholarship Application

Iowa CPCU Society Chapter  
2014 Undergraduate Scholarship Application

Scholarship Amount: \$1,000 toward tuition during recipient's sophomore, junior, or senior year.  
Amount may be applied to spring, summer, or fall tuition.

### Eligibility:

- Iowa CPCU Society Chapter members or one of their dependents; and,
- Sophomores, juniors, or seniors attending a four-year accredited college or university; and,
- Maintaining an overall G.P.A. of at least 2.75 on a 4.0 scale. Preference will be given to students majoring in business and/or insurance-related area of study.

Applicant Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Permanent Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_ CPCU Member Name \_\_\_\_\_

Year in school: Sophomore / Junior / Senior

Major: \_\_\_\_\_ Minor: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade Point Average: \_\_\_\_\_ Anticipated Graduation Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Please complete and return this form and the following information by Friday, March 14, 2014:

- A résumé that includes information regarding applicant's scholastic honors, extracurricular activities, employment history and other information you believe is important for consideration.
- A statement explaining your career goals and your thoughts about why you are deserving of consideration for this scholarship award. Also, if you are majoring in or have an emphasis in insurance, please explain your interest in that career path and list the insurance courses that you have taken or plan to take.

Please mail the completed application, résumé, and statement to:

Doug Nuehring, CPCU  
Iowa CPCU Society Chapter  
c/o EMC Insurance Companies  
Box 712  
Des Moines, IA 50306-0712

Alternatively, you can email the documents to "Doug.W.Nuehring@EMCIns.com".

## Graduate Scholarship Application

Iowa CPCU Society Chapter  
2014 Graduate Scholarship Application

Scholarship Amount: \$1,000 toward tuition at an accredited graduate college or university.  
Amount may be applied to spring, summer, or fall tuition.

Eligibility:

- a. Iowa CPCU Society Chapter members only; and,
- b. Attending an accredited graduate college or university

Applicant Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Permanent Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Graduate Program: \_\_\_\_\_

Please complete and return this form and the following information by Friday, March 14, 2014:

1. A résumé that includes information regarding applicant's scholastic honors, extracurricular activities, employment history, and other information you believe is important for consideration.
2. A statement explaining your career goals and your thoughts about why you are deserving of consideration for this scholarship award. Please state why your graduate degree will help you on your path to your career goals. Also, please list graduate level insurance courses you have taken or plan to take.

Please mail the completed application, résumé, and statement to:

Doug Nuehring, CPCU  
Iowa CPCU Society Chapter  
c/o EMC Insurance Companies  
Box 712  
Des Moines, IA 50306-0712

Alternatively, you can email the documents to "Doug.W.Nuehring@EMCIns.com".



## Iowa Insurance Hall of Fame Seeking Nominations

Since its beginning in 1997, the Iowa Insurance Hall of Fame (IIHOF) has recognized 82 industry leaders who have made their mark on our industry on a local, national, and world stage. Their leadership and vision have set the standards for others to follow.

The Iowa Insurance Hall of Fame was formed to celebrate the fact that Iowa's insurance operations have grown to become a leading force within the industry, impacting financial services around the globe. By noting the outstanding individual contributions that formed the backbone of our industry and preserve its integrity today, the IIHOF hopes to inspire a vision of unrivaled success for the next generation of insurance industry leaders.

But there is a problem - unless they are nominated, those that you are sure should be included will never be inducted. Each year, someone asks why a particular "pillar" of our industry was not inducted. The answer is simple - they were not nominated.

You can help the IIHOF in this very important program. To do so, please go to their web site at [www.iihof.org](http://www.iihof.org) and click on "Nominations." The nomination form lists the information needed for a nomination to be considered.

The deadline for submissions is March 1, 2014, and the annual induction event will be held on May 20, 2014 (please note the date change), at Drake University's Olmsted Center. As a part of this year's induction program, two more "Iowa Insurance Hall of Fame" scholarships will be presented.

If you have any questions or concerns, contact Jeff Jeffus at 223-9438 or e-mail at [jeff.jeffus@stateauto.com](mailto:jeff.jeffus@stateauto.com). Thanks for your continued support of the Iowa Insurance Hall of Fame.

**THE DEADLINE FOR NOMINATIONS IS JUST A MONTH AWAY!!!!**



## 2014 CPCU Events

February 13, 2014 11:30 am	Community Choice CU Convention Center	Topic: Iowa Department for the Blind
March 2014 Date and time - TBD	TBD	Ethics Day
April 17, 2014 11:30 am	Smokey D's BBQ Restaurant	Speaker: Darren Warth Topic: Food Preparation & Loss Control
May 15, 2014 11:30 am	Des Moines Embassy Club	Speaker: William Howell Topic: Alternative Energy
September 18, 2014 3:00 pm	Exile Brewery	Topic: Equipment Breakdown
October 16, 2014 7:30 am	Des Moines Golf & Country Club	Speaker: Ann Weber Topic: Legislative Update
November 7, 2014 (Friday) 8:00 am	Prairie Meadows	I-Day 2014
December 11, 2014 3:00 pm	Wakonda Club	Speaker: TBD

2014 Iowa CPCU Society Chapter Schedule		
January 17	7:30 am	Machine Shed Restaurant
February 13	11:30 am	Community Choice CU Conv Ctr
March (TBD)	TBD	Ethics Day
April 17	11:30 am	Smokey D's BBQ Restaurant
May 15	11:30 am	Des Moines Embassy Club
September 18	3:00 pm	Exile Brewery
October 16	7:30 am	DSM Golf and Country Club
November 7	8:00 am	I-Day: Prairie Meadows
December 11	3:00 pm	Wakonda Club

**Update your schedule magnet and save the dates for our 2014 meetings. We look forward to seeing you soon.**

## Chapter Meeting

Date & Time	Thursday, February 13. 11:30 am
Location	Community Choice Credit Union Convention Center <i>Formerly Vets Auditorium - enter on <u>west side</u></i>
Speaker	Brenda H. Criswell, Rehabilitation Employment Specialist
Topic	Iowa Department for the Blind

### Speaker and Topic:

The Iowa Department for the Blind (formerly the Iowa Commission for the Blind) has provided services to Iowans since 1925. The Department is governed by the Commission for the Blind, which appoints the Director for the Department. The Commission consists of three members and is appointed by the Governor and confirmed in the Senate. About 25% of the Department's staff is blind or visually impaired. The Department's main office is in Des Moines, with an additional office in Waterloo and field staff statewide.

Brenda H. Criswell is a Rehabilitation Employment Specialist for the eastern half of Iowa with the Iowa Department for the Blind. The purpose of the Rehabilitation Employment Specialist is a dual customer approach which includes not just the client, but the business's needs. An Employment Specialist must match the client's ability to the employer's needs, then build the bridge to employment. It's important to help the client realize their strengths and passion, then make a passionate, appropriate placement.

In 2009, Ms. Criswell received the Commissioners' Award for her work in helping blind and visually impaired Iowans seek and retain competitive employment. The award is presented as part of the Governor's Annual Awards Program through the Iowa Commission of Persons with Disabilities and in conjunction with Disability Employment Awareness Month. Ms. Criswell was chosen to receive the award for her 31 years of dedicated service in her role at the Department for the Blind.

To enable us to have an accurate count for food purposes, please mail or e-mail reservations by February 10, 2014 to: [debbie.conroy@cpcu-iowa.org](mailto:debbie.conroy@cpcu-iowa.org)

Make checks payable to: Iowa CPCU Society Chapter

Mail checks to: Iowa CPCU Society Chapter  
Attn: Debra R. Conroy, CIIP, CIC  
1000 73rd St Ste 18  
Windsor Heights, IA 50324

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Company: \_\_\_\_\_ Total Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Cost: \$25 per person

To register by credit card, visit our chapter website ([www.cpcu-iowa.org](http://www.cpcu-iowa.org)) and click on the link on the main page under Meetings & Events. For questions about the meeting, not concerning reservations, please call Kim Smetzer at (515) 365-4340.